



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Required Report - public distribution

Date: 12/29/2005

GAIN Report Number: GM6001

Germany

Fresh Deciduous Fruit

Semi-Annual

2006

Approved by:

William W. Westman
U.S. Embassy, Berlin

Prepared by:

Sabine M Lieberz

Report Highlights:

FAS/Berlin raises the estimate for German commercial apple production in MY 2005/06 (harvest 2005) from 915,000 to 960,000 MT, while the non-commercial production is reduced from 500,000 to 450,000 MT. The production estimate for pears is left unchanged.

Includes PSD Changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Semi-Annual Report
Berlin [GM1]
[GM]

Executive Summary

This report contains changes to the PSD for apples and pears submitted in our last Fresh Deciduous Fruit annual report (GM5034). The trade tables are left unchanged for the full marketing year MY 2004/05. However, this report gives trade data for the first three months of MY 2005/06.

Official figures for German commercial apple and pear production for the 2005 harvest are expected to be released by the end of January 2006. Based on stock figures and industry information, FAS/Berlin is raising the estimate for commercial apple production in MY 2005/06 (harvest 2005) from 915,000 MT to 960,000 MT. The production estimate for pears is left unchanged at 43,000 MT.

For apples, this is a five percent increase compared to the production of 915,000 MT in MY 2004/05. Pear production is 30 percent below the MY 2004/05 harvest.

Apples

Based on stock figures and industry information, FAS/Berlin raises the estimate for commercial apple production in MY 2005/06 (harvest 2005) to 960,000 MT. This compares to our previous estimate of 915,000 MT and last year's production of 945,000 MT. The increase is largely due to a higher than expected crop in the Niederelbe region¹. Above average growing conditions, particularly relating to moisture and temperature in September and October, resulted in larger fruit diameters. This in turn produced heavier fruits².

German official sources do not issue production estimates for non-commercial apple production, because the last tree census for non-commercial apple trees dates from the 1960s. Therefore, FAS/Berlin data for non-commercial apple production are very rough estimates. Non-commercial apple production includes apples from trees in meadows and house gardens and is mostly used for processing. For MY 2005/2006, non-commercial apple production is estimated at about 450,000 MT. This is ten percent less than our previous estimate and 50 percent below last year's crop. The large year-on-year drop is attributed to the bi-annual growing pattern of non commercial orchards and infestation by the winter (*operophtera brumata*) and codling moths (*cydia pomonella/laspeyresia pomonella*).

Stocks

At this time of the year, commercial stock figures provide a better picture about market prospects than harvest figures alone. As of November 1, 2005, producer organizations held one percent smaller stocks than at the same time the previous year. This occurred despite the fact that until the end of October producer organizations marketed about 25 percent more apples than in the previous season. The results indicate that the previous crop assessments were underestimated.

The "Jonagold" variety and related varieties show a seven percent increase compared to last year and make up about 35 percent of total. In contrast, stocks of the second largest variety, "Elstar," show a 17 percent decrease compared to last year, but still above the long-term average. For details please see table 1.

¹ The Niederelbe region is located West of Hamburg in Northern Germany

² An increase of 1 mm in fruit diameters translates into a fruit weight increase of four percent.

Table 1: Commercial Apple Stocks held by Producer Organizations on November 1, by Year, Variety and Region in MT

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05r	2005/06p	Change in percent
Total Apples	392,500	352,800	280,220	333,668	367,479	364,845	-1%
Thereof							
Jonagold*	120,800	109,200	90,086	115,167	121,425	130,244	7%
Elstar	60,200	56,300	49,676	46,869	74,364	61,360	-17%
Idared	41,100	31,900	32,010	36,614	35,239	28,519	-19%
Golden Delicious	31,800	29,100	32,538	32,884	30,577	24,274	-21%
Gala	10,300	9,900	11,794	14,483	14,047	18,751	33%
Braeburn	8,500	9,200	6,945	12,407	17,064	17,523	3%
Boskoop	31,800	23,200	13,697	12,619	16,537	15,573	-6%
Gloster	30,900	27,900	15,111	23,421	17,818	15,380	-14%
Pinova	2,300	2,600	3,157	4,467	7,948	9,543	20%
Cox Orange	13,700	16,300	4,232	5,784	6,435	8,103	26%
Other	41,100	37,200	20,974	28,953	26,025	35,575	37%
By region:							
North	170,800	166,500	92,866	130,202	145,761	158,773	9%
South	107,500	90,300	68,989	100,721	86,622	84,929	-2%
East	98,800	78,200	11,757	11,649	19,093	16,561	-13%
Center-West	15,400	17,700	106,608	91,096	116,003	104,582	-10%

R = revised

P = provisional

* = Jonagold and similar varieties

Source: Central Market and Price Reporting Agency (ZMP)

Prices

Apple prices were very low at the beginning of the season because large carry-over of apples from the previous harvest as well as imports from the Southern hemisphere disturbed in the market. According to ZMP, average retail prices for apples in August, September, and October were 19, 14, and 7 percent lower compared to the low prices of 2004. The combination of decreased supplies of apples from non-commercial backyard production and lower retail prices, resulted in a 10.6 percent increase in consumer purchases from August through October 2005.

Intervention

The EU intervention price for apples is fixed at 8.81 Euro (US\$ 10.43³) per 100 kg⁴. Must apple⁵ prices have been as high as 12 Euro (US\$ 14.20) per 100 kg this fall as a result of the low non-commercial apple crop. Therefore, it is unlikely that intervention will be used this

³ Exchange rate as of Dec 29, 2005: 1 Euro = US\$ 1.1837, US\$ 1 = 08.448 Euro

⁴ Annex V of EU regulation 2200/96

⁵ Must apples = apples destined for juice production

year. Apples that could have gone into intervention under different circumstances will be redirected to juice production.

Pears

Commercial pear production in MY 2005/06 is estimated at 43,000 MT compared to 61,000 MT in MY 2004/05. These figures originate not from the German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture, and Consumer Protection, (BMELV) but from the German Central Market- and Price Reporting Agency (ZMP). According to industry sources, the official final German pear production numbers from BMELV have been largely overestimated since CY 2002. Therefore FAS/Berlin decided to go with the widely accepted ZMP figures.

Commercial pear stocks amounted to about 4,600 MT on November 1, 2005, compared to 7,627 MT the year before.

Part II: Statistical tables

Table 2 : PSD for fresh apples (in ha, 1000 trees, MT)

PSD Table

Country Commodity	Germany Apples, Fresh					
	(HA)		(1000 TREES)		(MT)	
	2003	Revised	2004	Estimate	2005	Forecast
Market Year Begin	USDA Official [	Estimate[1]	USDA Official [	Estimate[1]	USDA Official [	Estimate[1]
	07/2003	07/2003	07/2004	07/2004	07/2005	07/2005
Area Planted	31219	31219	31219	31219	31219	31219
Area Harvested	31219	31219	31219	31219	31219	31219
Bearing Trees	64182	64182	64182	64182	64182	64182
Non-Bearing Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Trees	64182	64182	64182	64182	64182	64182
Commercial Production	818000	818000	945000	945000	915000	960000
Non-Comm. Production	700000	700000	1000000	1000000	500000	450000
TOTAL Production	1518000	1518000	1945000	1945000	1415000	1410000
TOTAL Imports	768822	768822	708759	708759	750000	740000
TOTAL SUPPLY	2286822	2286822	2653759	2653759	2165000	2150000
Domestic Fresh Consump	1475000	1475000	1620247	1620247	1477000	1462000
Exports, Fresh Only	77622	77622	88225	88225	88000	88000
For Processing	734200	734200	945000	945000	600000	600000
Withdrawal From Market	0	0	287	287	0	0
TOTAL UTILIZATION	2286822	2286822	2653759	2653759	2165000	2150000

Table 3 : German imports of apples for the first quarter of the MY, by year

IMPORT	July/Sep 2003			July/Sep 2004			July/Sep 2005		
	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT
U.S.A.	15	17	1096	180	194	1080	0	0	0
ITALY	58,386	40,736	698	34,859	35,164	1009	57,529	40,233	699
NEW ZEALAND	34,259	38,021	1110	48,334	54,275	1123	50,894	51,974	1021
NETHERLANDS	21,412	12,575	587	22,246	12,970	583	25,493	8,117	318
CHILE	11,018	9,680	879	19,850	18,870	951	16,465	12,185	740
FRANCE	8,950	7,183	803	11,969	11,942	998	14,657	6,248	426
ARGENTINA	7,114	5,023	706	7,988	7,151	895	11,479	8,035	700
AUSTRIA	4,397	1,887	429	1,860	1,714	921	6,470	2,964	458
BRAZIL	3,349	3,165	945	13,458	11,566	859	5,744	4,238	738
BELGIUM	9,599	8,738	910	8,246	8,134	986	5,359	2,464	460
SOUTH AFRICA	12,260	9,379	765	19,016	21,266	1118	5,113	4,335	848
GREECE	-	-	-	20	22	1111	2,855	609	213
POLAND	2,765	457	165	4,192	789	188	2,509	439	175
CZECH REPUBLIC	1,892	303	160	4,048	429	106	914	122	134
CHINA	226	153	679	1,727	1,869	1082	507	466	920
Other	2,341			2,520			1,479		
INTRA EU-15	104,235	72,166	692	80,458	71,072	883	112,677	60,894	540
NMS ⁶	4,664	765	164	8,697	1,313	151	3,570	585	164
EXTRA EU-25	69,069	65,870	954	111,178	115,649	1040	91,221	81,813	897
WORLD	177,968	138,801	780	200,333	188,034	939	207,467	143,292	691

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics, Wiesbaden

⁶ NMS = New EU member states

Table 4: German exports of fresh apples for the first quarter of the MY, by year

EXPORT	July/Sep 2003			July/Sep 2004			July/Sep 2005		
	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT
NETHERLANDS	6,305	6,238	989	5,754	5,095	885	3,781	3,374	892
FRANCE	1,461	1,566	1072	3,149	3,680	1168	3,391	3,608	1064
UNITED KINGDOM	1,188	1,746	1470	2,615	4,058	1552	3,225	3,946	1223
DENMARK	647	508	784	1,568	1,616	1030	2,146	1,558	726
AUSTRIA	1,009	1,062	1052	1,745	1,903	1091	1,705	1,481	869
CZECH REPUBLIC	70	30	431	202	172	852	1,633	706	432
SWEDEN	668	526	788	1,302	1,545	1187	1,201	1,216	1013
LITHUANIA	25	14	537	198	85	427	916	367	401
ITALY	1,171	966	825	2,009	2,241	1115	889	767	863
BELGIUM	142	157	1103	466	627	1347	691	775	1121
FINLAND	585	506	865	778	788	1013	643	596	926
SPAIN	129	184	1428	734	727	990	433	410	947
NORWAY	69	62	903	27	33	1222	420	461	1098
RUSSIA	94	50	531	352	172	487	417	223	534
OTHER	1,220			2,083			2,366		
INTRA EU-15	14,132	14,386	1018	21,494	24,141	1123	19,011	18,743	986
NMS	179	91	510	673	476	708	3,423	1,490	435
EXTRA EU-25	467	264	566	815	551	676	1,423	1,006	707
WORLD	14,783	14,744	997	22,982	25,168	1095	23,857	21,239	890

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics, Wiesbaden

Table 5: PSD for fresh pears (in ha, trees, MT)

PSD Table

Country	Germany					
Commodity	Pears, Fresh					
	(HA)		(1000 TREES)		(MT)	
	2003	Revised	2004	Estimate	2005	Forecast
	USDA Official [	Estimate[1]	USDA Official [	Estimate[1]	USDA Official [	Estimate[1]
Market Year Begin	07/2003	07/2003	07/2004	07/2004	07/2005	07/2005
Area Planted	2090	2090	2090	2090	2090	2090
Area Harvested	2090	2090	2090	2090	2090	2090
Bearing Trees	2703	2703	2703	2703	2703	2703
Non-Bearing Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Trees	2703	2703	2703	2703	2703	2703
Commercial Production	49000	49000	61000	61000	43000	43000
Non-Comm. Production	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Production	49000	49000	61000	61000	43000	43000
TOTAL Imports	163108	163108	176368	176368	170000	170000
TOTAL SUPPLY	212108	212108	237368	237368	213000	213000
Domestic Fresh Consump	194334	194334	214724	214724	194000	194000
Exports, Fresh Only	14528	14528	20025	20025	18000	18000
For Processing	3236	3236	2270	2270	1000	1000
Withdrawal From Market	10	10	349	349	0	0
TOTAL UTILIZATION	212108	212108	237368	237368	213000	213000

Table 6: German imports of fresh pears for the first quarter of the MY, by year

IMPORT	July/Sep 2003			July/Sep 2004			July/Sep 2005		
	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT
U.S.A.	1	2	2260	506	706	1396	21	10	459
SPAIN	10,342	7,510	726	8,185	6,768	827	7,763	4,682	603
ITALY	7,569	7,082	936	7,815	7,335	939	7,441	6,904	928
SOUTH AFRICA	2,596	2,826	1089	11,686	14,722	1260	4,920	5,093	1035
ARGENTINA	2,553	2,351	921	2,724	2,732	1003	4,584	3,745	817
CHILE	2,775	2,229	803	2,874	2,568	894	3,223	2,489	772
FRANCE	3,365	2,404	714	3,136	2,661	849	2,112	1,379	653
BELGIUM	724	852	1178	610	381	625	572	435	761
NETHERLANDS	1,202	1,128	938	904	749	829	520	521	1001
TURKEY	176	150	853	140	174	1248	159	153	967
OTHER	263			179			348		
INTRA EU-15	23,202	18,976	818	20,651	17,894	867	18,586	14,063	757
NMS	-	-	-	12	9	710	2	2	1418
EXTRA EU-25	8,364	7,737	925	18,096	21,064	1164	13,076	11,668	892
WORLD	31,566	26,713	846	38,759	38,967	1005	31,663	25,734	813

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics, Wiesbaden

Table 7 : German exports of fresh pears for the first quarter of the MY, by year

EXPORT	July/Sep 2003			July/Sep 2004			July/Sep 2005		
	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT	MT	1000-\$	\$/MT
NETHERLANDS	187	170	910	633	584	923	816	615	754
PORTUGAL	90	83	922	75	71	952	615	339	551
AUSTRIA	285	287	1008	436	519	1189	586	613	1048
FRANCE	123	142	1147	255	351	1380	493	499	1012
UNITED KINGDOM	100	141	1406	325	433	1332	357	331	926
SWEDEN	-	-	-	257	287	1119	344	293	854
ITALY	203	234	1149	339	425	1254	312	311	997
DENMARK	217	200	920	269	258	959	201	171	852
BELGIUM	140	38	274	71	134	1890	162	113	697
CZECH REPUBLIC	-	-	-	14	17	1253	142	97	681
OTHER	1,047			2,508			3,717		
INTRA EU- 15	1,582	1,522	962	3,051	3,467	1137	4,176	3,602	863
NMS	7	7	1049	101	88	876	237	156	661
EXTRA EU- 25	19	16	845	49	35	719	121	97	801
WORLD	1,607	1,544	961	3,201	3,591	1122	4,534	3,856	850

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics, Wiesbaden

Related reports:

Report Number	Date	Title
GM3011	03/17/2003	EU support for the fruit and vegetable sector in Germany
GM3025	08/15/2003	Fruit Tree Census
GM5002	01/07/2005	Product Brief Fresh Fruits
GM5034	09/07/2005	Fresh Deciduous Fruit Annual